



# AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

## Housing: Question on Food Stamps (H-15)

### FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL USES OF DATA ABOUT FOOD STAMPS

- The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families uses these food stamp data for the High Performance Bonus Program under Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (45 CFR 270.4(c)(2)).
- Business proprietors use these data to determine demographic and economic trends in their service areas and to adjust their product lines or services accordingly.
- State and local governments, faith-based and other non-profit organizations, and businesses use these data to plan, budget, and pay benefits.

### QUESTION AS IT APPEARS IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE

**15** At any time **DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS**, did anyone in this household receive Food Stamps?

☐ Yes → What was the value of the Food Stamps received during the past 12 months?

Past 12 months' value – Dollars

\$  .00

☐ No

### EXAMPLES OF LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD STAMP DATA

Information about food stamps is required by the:

- Social Security Act, Section 403(a)
- Public Health Service Act, Section 505

[<www.census.gov/acs/www>](http://www.census.gov/acs/www)

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

*Helping You Make Informed Decisions*



# AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

## Housing: Question on Food Stamps (H-15)

### HISTORY OF THE FOOD STAMPS QUESTION

- The question on food stamps was first asked on the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey.
- The question was not asked on the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire.

### WHAT IS THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey that collects socioeconomic and housing information and is the planned replacement for the long form in the 2010 Census.

The U.S. Census Bureau plans to conduct the ACS in every county, American Indian and Alaska Native Area, Hawaiian Home Land, and in Puerto Rico, once it is fully implemented, pending Congressional funding. The ACS has been tested across the country since 1996.

### WHY WE ASK IT THIS WAY

Information about specific sources of income, provides needed detail about public assistance. Answers to this question help determine poverty status.

### HOW CAN I SEE THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ?

The information collected from these tests is published on the Census Bureau's Web site at:

<[www.census.gov/acs/www](http://www.census.gov/acs/www)>

and American FactFinder at:

<<http://factfinder.census.gov>>

For more information call, e-mail, or visit our Web site:

**1-888-456-7215**

**<[cmo.acs@census.gov](mailto:cmo.acs@census.gov)>**

**<<http://www.census.gov/acs/www>>**

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

*Helping You Make Informed Decisions*